CLAIMS:

We claim …

1. A computer virus avoidance system that sends an e-mail with an attachment to e-mail users, creates a list of e-mail users that open the attachment, and the list is accessible as a page on the World Wide Web.

2. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 1, wherein the attachment displays a message to the user when the attachment is opened.

3. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 1, wherein an e-mail message is sent to users that open the attachment.

4. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 1, wherein the attachment transmits replications of itself to other e-mail users.

5. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 4, wherein the number of replication and transmission cycles is limited.

6. A computer virus avoidance system and an e-mail system, comprising: a means for sending an e-mail with an attachment to an e-mail address, and a means to send an e-mail to a specific e-mail address of a web-page on the internet's World Wide Web when the attachment is opened

7. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 6, wherein the attachment displays a message to the user when the attachment is opened.

8. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 6, wherein an e-mail message is sent to users that open the attachment.

9. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 6, wherein the specific e-mail address of the web-page creates a list of e-mail users that opened the attachment.

10. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 6, wherein the attachment contains a means to send a replica of itself to another e-mail address.

11. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 10, wherein the number of times that the attachment replication process is limited.

12. A computer virus avoidance system in a computer network and a system for sending an e-mail wherein an e-mail is sent to an e-mail address, and the e-mail has an attachment that sends an e-mail to a specific web-page on the internet's World Wide Web when the attachment is opened.

13. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 12, wherein the attachment displays a warning message to the user when the attachment is opened.

14. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 12, wherein an e-mail message is sent to users that open the attachment.

15. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 12, wherein the specific e-mail address is that of a web-page on the internet's World Wide Web that creates a list of e-mail addresses that have sent it messages.

17. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 12, wherein the attachment sends a replica of itself to another e-mail addresses.

18. The computer virus avoidance system of claim 17, wherein the number of replication cycles is limited.

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